

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 047987

60

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 R

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R 271831Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

UNCLAS STATE 047987

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:BEXP, TC

SUBJECT:ABU DHABI STEEL COMPLEX

REFERENCE: ABU DHABI 432

1. SABA HAS MADE PLANS TO ARRIVE ABU DHABI EVENING MARCH 16 AND CALL ON EMBASSY MORNING MARCH 17 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADOR AND/OR COMMERCIAL OFFICER. LATER IN DAY, HE PLANS TO MEET WITH DR. SHAFIA HAFEZ, DEPT. OF PETROLEUM AND INDUSTRY, TO RENEW RELATIONSHIP ESTABLISHED PREVIOUSLY DURING NEGOTIATIONS ON PIPE FACTORY. SABA HAS NOTIFIED HIS LOCAL AGENT THAT ARRANGEMENTS ON STEEL MILL PROJECT WOULD BE MADE THROUGH EMBASSY AND USG AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON.

2. TONE OF REFTTEL CONVEYS SOME DOUBT AS TO PROFITABILITY OF SABA VISIT AT THIS TIME. IF, IN EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT, TRIP WOULD BE MORE USEFUL AT LATER DATE, HE WILL DROP ABU DHABI FROM ITINERARY SINCE STEEL MILL PROJECT IS PRIMARY REASON FOR STOP ON THIS TRIP TO AREA.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON PARA 2. IF MID-MARCH TRIP
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IS RECOMMENDED, REQUEST COMMENTS ON AVAILABILITY OF AMBASSA-

DOR AND COMMERCIAL OFFICER MORNING MARCH 17. SABA IS LEAVING U.S. MARCH 11 AND WOULD APPRECIATE EARLIEST RESPONSE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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